

PROCEEDINGS  
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A NEW SPECIES OF *ACHYRANTHES* FROM TOBAGO.

BY PAUL C. STANDLEY.

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Mr. W. E. Broadway, who by his extensive collections has contributed so much to our knowledge of the flora of Trinidad and Tobago, recently forwarded to the writer, among other plants, specimens of an undescribed *Achyranthes*\* from Little Tobago Island. This island, which lies just off the northeast coast of Tobago, was unknown botanically until visited by Mr. Broadway in July, 1914. Interest in Little Tobago has been enhanced recently by the fact that Birds of Paradise have been liberated upon it by the owner, Sir William Ingram, proprietor of the Illustrated London News, for whom, at Mr. Broadway's suggestion, the new species of *Achyranthes* is named.

***Achyranthes ingramiana* Standley, sp. nov.**

Stems herbaceous, ascending or decumbent, the branches stout, pilose (especially about the nodes) with slender, smooth, yellowish, ascending or subappressed hairs; petioles slender, 4-8 mm. long, sparsely short-pilose; leaf blades orbicular-ovate or broadly ovate, 2.5-5 cm. long, 2-3 cm. wide, rounded at the base and shortly decurrent, acute at the apex or rarely obtuse, mucronate, succulent, bright green, translucent when dry, sparsely pilose-strigose on both surfaces; peduncles axillary, simple, slender, 1.5-3.5 cm. long, shorter than the leaves, pilose-strigose; spikes solitary, subglobose to short-cylindric, 7-15 mm. long, about 8 mm. in diameter, the flowers stramineous, pediceled within the bracts, the pedicels stout, nearly 1 mm. long, deeply 5-sulcate; bracts and bractlets ovate-deltoid, half as long as the sepals, aristate-acuminate, sparsely short-pilose; sepals narrowly lance-oblong, 3.5 mm. long, acute, thick, short-pilose nearly to the apex, the tips erect or incurved; anthers sessile;

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\* The generic name *Achyranthes* is used here to designate the group usually known as *Alternanthera*. See, The application of the generic name *Achyranthes*, by Paul C. Standley, Journ. Wash. Acad. Sci. 5: 72-76. 1915.

staminodia slightly longer than the anthers, ligulate, fimbriate at the apex; seed 1.2 mm. long, dark reddish brown, lustrous.

Type collected along the seashore of Little Tobago Island, July 26, 1914, by Mr. W. E. Broadway, No. 4902 (U. S. Nat. Herb. no. 694,628).

The proposed species is a member of that group separated by Martius as the genus *Mogiphanes*, characterized by the sulcate pedicels of the flowers. In most of the species of *Achyranthes* the flowers are nearly or quite sessile. All the other members of the subgenus *Mogiphanes* have larger flowers, usually 5 mm. long. The leaves of *Achyranthes ingramiana* are characteristic, because of their small size and great breadth. They appear to have been decidedly succulent when growing, but when dry they are very soft and perfectly translucent.